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BATMAN II

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TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES

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Art by
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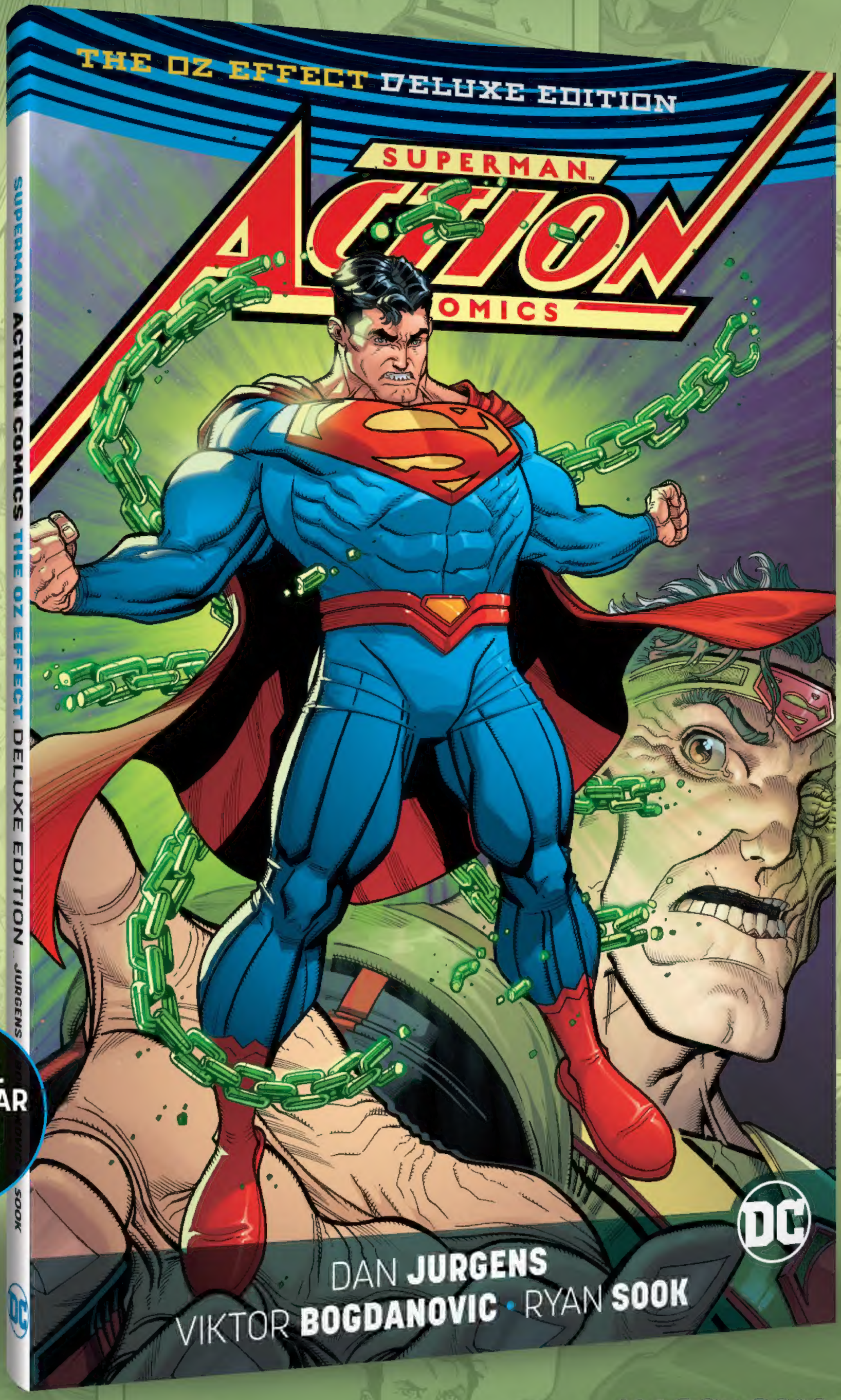
RYAN SOOK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MARCH 2018

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A KNIGHT IN NEW YORK PART 4

PLOT: JAMES TYNION IV DIALOGUE: RYAN FERRIER
ART: FREDDIE WILLIAMS II COLORS: JEREMY COLWELL LETTERS: TOM NAPOLITANO
COVER: WILLIAMS II AND COLWELL VARIANT COVER: KEVIN EASTMAN AND TOMI VARGA
ASSISTANT EDITOR: LIZ ERICKSON EDITOR: JIM CHADWICK
BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER
TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES CREATED BY KEVIN EASTMAN AND PETER LAIRD

PFZZT

THE SATELLITE'S POSITIONED EXACTLY HOW DONATELLO NEEDS IT, BUT I'M GETTING NOTHING ON THE RADIO. TOTAL SILENCE.

YOU HAVING LUCK WITH THAT PORTAL, APRIL? WE GOOD TO GO?

THE INTER-DIMENSIONAL TELEPORTATION THINGAMABOB IS PRETTY SIMPLE. ONE PLUG, ONE SWITCH...

...APPARENTLY NOT AS COMPLICATED AS A TWO-WAY RADIO.

I'M GETTING WORRIED. IT'S NOT LIKE THE GUYS TO LOSE CONTACT LIKE THIS. DONNIE'S TECH IS ALWAYS--WELL, ***USUALLY***--PRETTY AIRTIGHT.

WHEREVER THEY ARE, I HOPE THEY'RE OKAY.

I'M SURE IT'S JUST A HICCUP, CASEY...

PFZZT

PUCK-DROPPER TO PURPLE-NURPLE, ***DO YOU READ ME?***

DONNIE? DONNIE, DO YOU READ ME? IT'S CASEY, OVER.

...THEY'RE FINE. TOTALLY FINE.

"SAY SOMETHING... ANYTHING! PLEASE!"

YOU ARE COMPLETELY SURROUNDED. A PERIMETER OF UNENDING STRENGTH AND POWER ENCOMPASSES YOU.

THERE IS NO ESCAPE. NOT FROM THIS PLACE. NOT FROM THE CRUSHING WEIGHT AND WILL OF OUR BRUTALITY.

SO TELL ME...IF YOU CAN WITHSTAND THE FLEETING, FINAL MOMENTS OF YOUR LIVES FLASHING BEFORE YOUR EYES LONG ENOUGH TO CONSIDER MY OFFER WITH WHAT LITTLE COGNIZANCE REMAINS...

...DO YOU KNEEL BEFORE BANE?

NO ONE MOVE... I CAN GET US OUT OF THIS, BUT YOU HAVE TO ***LISTEN*** TO ME...

VIS-À-VIS, THEREFORE, INDUBITABLY, BLAH BLAH BLAH. WHO DOES THIS GUY THINK HE IS, ***WILLIAM PROTEIN-SHAKESPEARE?***

AIN'T THAT CUTE, BEBOP? THE SCRAWNY LI'L PET SHOP BOYS THINK WORDS'LL HURT US.

LOOK AT US, SHELL-HEADS. YOU GOT ***NO CHANCE.***

HEH, YEAH--***AND*** YER HALLOWEEN-STORE-REJECT PALS TOO.

SCRUNCH YER FACE UP ALL YA WANT, BIRDIE TWINS. DON'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT WE'RE GONNA MASH YER BONES INTO SLOP!

THIS ONE'S STILL IN DIAPERS! WHAT YOU LOOKIN' AT, CHICKADEE?

FOUR.

TAK

WELL, LOOK AT THAT. WIDDLE BABY CAN COUNT SINGLE DIGITS, *HWAH!*

THREE.

DEET

TWO.

DEET

WHAT THE--

GRRR

THE OFFER IS HEREBY RESCINDED. ***CRUSH THEM.*** ALL OF THEM. WHATEVER IS LEFT WE SHALL SCORCH, AND SCATTER THEIR ASHES OVER GOTHAM.

THEN WE SHALL SALT THE EARTH SO THAT NOTHING SHALL GROW AGAIN!

THERE IS A FIRE WITHIN THIS ONE...***ALMOST*** IMPRESSIVE.

RRRAAARRGH!

HRNN! YOU COULDN'T EVEN STOP US ***BEFORE*** THE VENOM...

KTAK

ACK! NO!

LEAVE YOUR WEAPON, DONATELLO. IT IS BUT *ONE* TOOL...NOT YOUR GREATEST ASSET.

BUT, FATHER, I--

WE NEED *YOU*, MY SON!

CONTAIN THE THREAT, ROBIN--*LOCK THEM DOWN!*

HUFF!

FTHWIP

FTHWIP

THIS VENOM... STRONGER THAN ANY WE'VE ENCOUNTERED BEFORE.

HRRN! HA HA HA! THAT TICKLED!

CAN WE PLEASE MOVE TO *PLAN B* NOW, FATHER-- HIT IT UNTIL IT DIES?

"NO, ROBIN. THIS FIGHT REQUIRES PRECISE VIGILANCE."

MY FOOT SOLDIERS CANNOT YET COMPREHEND THE NEWFOUND STRENGTH COURSING THROUGH THEIR VEINS. BUT I CAN, WITH PAINFUL ASSURANCE, SHOW YOU I AM IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF A POWER THE LIKES OF WHICH IS BEYOND YOUR COMPREHENSION.

FOR A JACKED-UP, BABY-HEADED VEIN-HOARDER, YOU DO A LOT MORE TALKING THAN FIGHTING.

LET'S SEE YOU WAX POETIC AFTER I SEND YOUR TEETH INTO YOUR GUTS.

I WILL GIVE YOU THE CHANCE TO DISCOVER YOUR ULTIMATE MISCALCULATION.

NOW THEN... PROCEED... IF YOU ARE READY.

HNG!

FWUP

THUK

RRRAAH!

NNF!

I ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR EFFORTS...

SHIKK

...BUT THEY ARE ENTIRELY AND *MORTALLY* FUTILE.

GUHH--

KRAK-OOOSH

WHATEVER NEURONS REMAIN FIRING IN YOUR SIMPLE MIND, TRAIN THEM ON MY VOICE. LET MY WORDS BE THE PENULTIMATE FORCE TO RATTLE IN YOUR SKULL.

SHOULD YOU BE SO LUCKY, THE FINAL ACT OF YOUR COGNIZANCE WILL BE A LESSON LEARNED--ONE THAT WAS POUNDED INTO ME WHEN I WAS A FIERY YOUNG MAN LIKE YOURSELF.

SOME OVERCOME THEIR PRISONS. SOME RECOVER FROM VIOLENCE. SOME...*DO NOT.*

THE ONLY LESSON TONIGHT IS *YOURS.*

ONE OF HUMILITY AND EMBARRASSMENT.

AND I WILL TEACH YOU.

KWA-

HURRGH!

KRAK

YOUR STRENGTH MEANS LITTLE TO ME IN THE ABSENCE OF A STRONG *MIND,* BANE.

YOUR KIND HAS FED AND SLEPT IN THE WASTES OF HISTORY...

...BUT THIS WORLD'S TOLERANCE FOR PESTS ENDS TODAY, UNDER MY FISTS AND BOOT HEELS!

KRRSH

YOU RELY TOO MUCH ON THEATRICS AND BRAVADO...

...IT WILL BE YOUR DOWNFALL, BANE.

LESSON LEARNED.

KRAK

HGLK!

HNGLK!

RAPHAEL!

SAY SOMETHING, MY BRAVE SON.

L-LOOK...

...LOOK OUT!

SELF-RIGHTEOUS SCOURGE! I'LL HAVE MY LOWEST SERVANT DISPOSE OF YOUR BODY!

SHINKICK

MASTER SPLINTER!

R-RUN... MY... SONS...

KOOM

RUN!

KKOOOM

GET BACK, MY SONS!

YOU MUST PROTECT YOURSELVES!

KKOOOM

THE STRUCTURE... IT'S COMING DOWN BETWEEN US!

NO! WE CAN REACH HIM!

FATHER!

HELP ME... HELP MMEEEE... YESSS...

SILENCE, STOCKMAN!

KRRACK

FATHER, NO!

HE'S BURIED! WE CAN GET HIM OUT. WE HAVE TO **BREAK THROUGH!**

WE DIG. EVERYONE TOGETHER. **NOW.**

MOVE! EVERYONE GRAB AND PUSH!

HRRRNG!

WE'RE COMING, FATHER.

BANNNE...

PETULANT INSECT.

YESSS... PRESERVE WE MUSSST... SSAVE THE VENOM...FIGHT LATER...SSSAFER THEN.

I'VE GROWN TIRED OF THESE GAMES. WHILE THE MUTANTS SCRAMBLE TO REGAIN THEIR SENSES, I WILL GROW STRONGER.

FUMING ON THIS SIDE WILL NOT BRING BANE DOWN, FATHER. BUT WE CANNOT SIMPLY STAND HERE.

THEY *NEED OUR HELP!*

I'VE GOT HIM! I'VE GOT HIM...HE'S BREATHING.

SAY SOMETHING, FATHER-- *PLEASE.*

=HHHUFF=

HE'S NOT RESPONDING. *HELP ME MOVE HIM!*

TELL US SOMETHING, APRIL. ANYTHING.

HE'S DEEP IN A COMA. CASEY AND I GOT OUR HANDS ON SOME I.V. FLUIDS, SO WE CAN TRY TO KEEP HIM STABLE.

WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN, LEO. PROMISE.

I AM SORRY, FATHER. I WAS RECKLESS.

EASY, KID. THIS IS ON ME. IF I WASN'T A HOTHEAD CONFRONTING BANE, THIS WOULD NEVER...

WE'VE FOUGHT OUR FAIR SHARE OF MONSTERS, BATMAN. BUT NOTHING CLOSE TO BANE.

HOW DO WE EVEN BEAT SOMEONE LIKE HIM?

HE'S A PERFECT PREDATOR. A CATASTROPHIC CULMINATION OF PROWESS AND POISON.

A NATURAL DISASTER--

BUT WE'VE DEFEATED BANE BEFORE. AND WE CAN DO IT AGAIN.

HE'S NEVER GIVEN VENOM TO AN ***ENTIRE ARMY*** BEFORE, ROBIN.

A STRAIN OF VENOM WE'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

C'MON, GUYS. WE KEEP MAKING THE *SAME* MISTAKES. WE'RE TRYING TO WIN AN ARM-WRESTLING MATCH AGAINST A BRICK WALL.

REMEMBER WHAT MASTER SPLINTER SAID? WE WON'T WIN WITH MUSCLE--WE WIN WITH OUR BIG OL' BRAINS.

WE ALL JUST GOTTA BE LIKE DONNIE FOR ONCE.

ARE YOU *CRAZY?* SPLINTER'S IN A *COMA* BECAUSE HE THOUGHT HIS MIND COULD DEFEAT BANE.

LOOK AROUND THIS ROOM. WHO IN HERE IS SMARTER THAN SPLINTER? OR BATMAN? OR EVEN ME?

NO ONE IS. WE LOST, MIKEY. WE THREW EVERYTHING WE COULD AT BANE AND HIS ARMY AND BARELY MADE A DENT.

IF ALL WE HAVE IS A HAMMER, EVERY BAD GUY LOOKS LIKE A NAIL. RIGHT NOW, THAT NAIL IS A HALF-TON MEGALOMANIAC WITH A ROIDED-UP SUPER-ARMY.

I SAY WE GET SOME NEW TOOLS. WE NEED SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

SOMETHING BANE WON'T EXPECT.

DO NOT TELL ME THAT IS WHAT I *THINK* IT IS.

VENOM.

I TOOK IT FROM STOCKMAN'S LAB, TO ANALYZE LATER.

BUT WE CAN USE IT. I CAN SYNTHESIZE THE FORMULA, AND--

AND WHAT? TURN OURSELVES INTO PSYCHO-RAGE -FREAKS LIKE BANE?

DONNIE, NO. THAT IS ABSOLUTELY *CRAZY.*

I'M WITH DONNIE. WE CAN'T FACE BANE AGAIN WITH THE SAME OLD BAG OF TRICKS. WE NEED TO BE STRONG ENOUGH TO ACTUALLY *FIGHT BACK.*

IT'S TIME TO GET SERIOUS. NO MORE PLAYING IT SAFE. LET'S GIVE BANE A TASTE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE.

YOU'RE DAMN RIGHT IT'S CRAZY.

AND *CRAZY* IS EXACTLY WHAT WE NEED.

NO.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND VENOM LIKE I DO. WHAT IT CAN DO TO A PERSON'S PSYCHE. TO THEIR VERY SOUL. IT CORRODES THEM FROM THE INSIDE, COMPLETELY.

I'M WITH BATMAN, DONNIE. WE CAN'T LET DESPERATION PUSH US TO A PLACE WE MIGHT NOT GET BACK FROM.

PLEASE, BRO. WE DON'T BLAME YOU FOR WHAT'S GONE DOWN, SO YOU GOTTA STOP BLAMING YOURSELF.

WE CAN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU, DONNIE. WE NEED YOU AS YOU ARE-- BRILLIANT.

LET'S ALL GET SOME REST AND PLAN OUR NEXT MOVES TO TAKE DOWN BANE, ***TOGETHER.*** TOMORROW WE'LL--

DON'T BE LIKE THAT, DON.

LEO. JUST LET HIM GO.

YEAH. REST. WHATEVER.

INTERESTING. FOR SWAMP-DWELLING REPTILES RAISED IN THE SEWERS, YOU ARE ALL ***REMARKABLY*** EMOTIONAL.

YEAH SO YOU'RE, LIKE, A BAJILLIONAIRE, RIGHT?

NO PLANNING SESSION IS COMPLETE WITHOUT, LIKE, THIRTY OR SO PIZZAS.

JUST SAYIN'. HEH.

I'VE SEEN THIS SO MANY TIMES. THE PATH OF DESTRUCTION BANE LEAVES BEHIND. THE INNOCENT SOULS LEFT IN HIS WAKE.

I *HATE* HIM, BATMAN.

BE STRONG, LEONARDO. SPLINTER HAS A RESOLVE UNLIKE ANY WARRIOR I'VE SEEN BEFORE...

"...AND BANE HAS NEVER HAD TO CONTEND WITH A FAMILY THAT INHERITED THAT SPIRIT."

THE TURTLES AND THEIR COHORTS--THE COSTUMED HUMANS--*FAILED.* STOCKGEN LIES IN RUBBLE.

WHOEVER THIS "MASKED LEVIATHAN" IS, HE IS ON THE MOVE, HIS FOOT CLAN UNDER HIS THUMB.

BUT HE IS NOT SILENT. NO, HE IS RECRUITING. EVERY MAJOR CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION IN NEW YORK HAS RECEIVED THE MESSAGE...

...SUBMIT--KNEEL--OR DIE.

THEIR ORDERS ARE TO MEET IN THREE DAYS. BY THEN HE WILL HAVE COMMANDEERED HIS ***NEW*** OPERATIONS HEADQUARTERS.

I WANT TO KNOW ***WHERE.*** WHICH FOOT LOCATION IS THIS MANIAC PLANNING TO DEFILE?

YOU WILL TELL ME. REVEAL THE LOCATION OF HIS SECRET BASE.

...

SPEAK UP, OR I'LL HAVE YOU GAGGED ***PERMANENTLY.***

MASTER KARAI, THE BASE IS NO SECRET...

"...HE WANTS EVERYONE TO KNOW WHERE HE IS"

NEW YORK CITY--LOOK UPON MY WORKS...

"...AND DESPAIR!"

JULY
I
XVI

WE'VE GOT MAPS--ROADWAYS, SUBWAY SYSTEMS, YOU NAME IT, FROM STATEN ISLAND TO THE BRONX--BUT IT ALL LOOKS LIKE A BROKEN PUZZLE TO ME RIGHT NOW.

WHERE DO WE EVEN BEGIN? BANE AND HIS SUPER-FOOT GOONS COULD BE ANYWHERE. IT'S HOPELESS.

JUST BREATHE, LEONARDO. I'VE DONE MUCH MORE WITH MUCH LESS.

YOU SEE A PUZZLE--I SEE AN ADVANTAGE. BANE DOESN'T KNOW THIS CITY LIKE YOU ALL DO. AND OUR ATTACK DOESN'T HAVE TO COME HEAD ON.

PIZZA HUT

"EVEN THE MOST SOLID STRUCTURE ON THE PLANET CAN FOLD LIKE A WEED--"

"IF THE FOUNDATIONS ARE KNOCKED LOOSE."

"EXACTLY. IF WE FOLLOW THE SUBWAY LINES--EXTRAPOLATE THE FOOT'S RATE OF TRAVEL--WE CAN FORM A MOVING, ADAPTABLE OFFENSE."

"HE WILL STAY CENTRAL. WE CREATE A 'KILL ZONE' AND STRIKE. CALCULATED. *TOGETHER.*"

"NO MISTAKES THIS TIME."

I'M SORRY, MY BROTHERS...

...BUT THIS IS THE ONLY WAY.

CHK

THE ONLY ASSURANCE WE CAN *WIN.*

DEET

HNNGG...

NNGGGRRRAAAGGGHH

To Be Continued...

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DC COLLECTIBLES TOY FAIR

DC ALL ACCESS

It's a cold week in mid-February and NYC is abuzz! No, it's not because of Fashion Week– it's because of the North American International Toy Fair 2018 and the DC Collectibles showing really heated things up. DC Collectibles showcased a number of exciting new products set to hit stores this year. Below are a few highlights of their 2018 lineup. So keep an eye out for these items as they go on sale throughout the year or pre-order them now at your favorite comics shop.

DOOMSDAY CLOCK ACTION FIGURES

DC Collectibles brings to life the smash-hit comic book series by Geoff Johns and Gary Frank. This action-figure line will start with a DR. MANHATTAN and OZYMANDIAS 2-pack, with more pairings to come.

NEW ARTISTS ALLEY STATUES

Next in line at DC Artists Alley is artist, comics creator and graphic designer HaiNaNu "Nooligan" Saulque's unique visions of BATMAN, THE JOKER and HARLEY QUINN in 6.75" designer vinyl. Both the full-color and black-and-white variants are limited.

DC CORE PVC STATUES

DC Collectibles gets you to the core of some of DC's most beloved (and sometimes feared) characters of all time with this line of 9" premium PVC statues. The line will kick off with THE JOKER with more releasing throughout 2018.

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